

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- Sub B1*
1. A home media network comprising:
 - 2 a first device configured to acquire and store digital media content;
 - 3 a transmission medium coupled to the first device; and
 - 4 a second device coupled to the transmission medium, wherein the second device
 - 5 is configured to control the playback and display of the digital media content.
 - 1 2. The home media network of claim 1 wherein the second device is configured to
 - 2 determine that a first network user is requesting to access digital media content stored at
 - 3 the first device based upon a first remote identification (ID) corresponding to the first
 - 4 network user.
 - 1 3. The home media network of claim 2 wherein the second device is configured to
 - 2 determine that a second network user is requesting to access digital media content based
 - 3 upon a second remote identification (ID) corresponding to the second network user.
 - 1 4. The home media network of claim 2 further comprising a third device coupled to
 - 2 the transmission medium, wherein the third device is configured to determine that the
 - 3 first network user is requesting to access digital media content based upon the first remote
 - 4 ID corresponding to the first network user.
 - 1 5. The home media network of claim 4 wherein the first, second and third devices
 - 2 are set-top boxes.
 - 1 6. The home media network of claim 4 wherein the first and second devices are set-top boxes and the third device is a personal digital assistant (PDA).

1 7. The home media network of claim 4 wherein the first and second devices are set-
2 top boxes and the third device is a personal computer.

1 8. The home media network of claim 1 further comprising:
2 a display device coupled to the second device; and
3 an audio device coupled to the second device.

1 9. The home media network of claim 8 further comprising:
2 a device interface coupled to the transmission medium; and
3 a digital device coupled to the device interface.

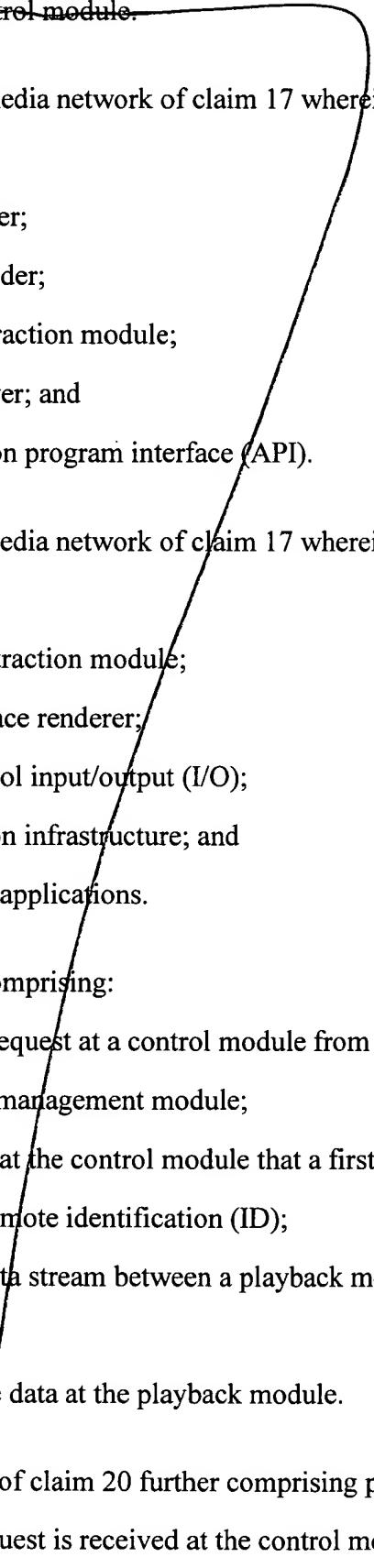
1 10. The home media network of claim 9 wherein the digital device a digital video disk
2 (DVD).

1 11. The home media network of claim 1 wherein the first device comprises:
2 a media acquisition module configured to acquire digital media content from a
3 source coupled to an external network; and
4 a storage management module configured to catalog digital media content
5 received from the media acquisition module.

1 12. The home media network of claim 11 wherein the storage management module
2 comprises:
3 an application program interface (API);
4 a business objects module;
5 a storage API;
6 a database API; and
7 a relational database.

- 1 13. The home media network of claim 11 wherein the media acquisition module
2 comprises:
3 an application program interface (API);
4 a content acquisition module; and
5 a code update module.
- 1 14. The home media network of claim 11 wherein the first device further comprises:
2 a media playback module; and
3 a media control module.
- 1 15. The home media network of claim 14 wherein the media playback module
2 comprises:
3 a frame buffer;
4 a video decoder;
5 a video abstraction module;
6 a media player; and
7 an application program interface (API).
- 1 16. The home media network of claim 14 wherein the first client device further
2 comprises:
3 an input abstraction module;
4 a user interface renderer;
5 remote control input/output (I/O);
6 an application infrastructure; and
7 one or more applications.
- 1 17. The home media network of claim 1 wherein the second device comprises:
2 a media playback module; and

3 ~~a media control module.~~



1 18. The home media network of claim 17 wherein the media playback module
2 comprises:

3 a frame buffer;
4 a video decoder;
5 a video abstraction module;
6 a media player; and
7 an application program interface (API).

1 19. The home media network of claim 17 wherein the first client device further
2 comprises:

3 an input abstraction module;
4 a user interface renderer;
5 remote control input/output (I/O);
6 an application infrastructure; and
7 one or more applications.

1 20. A method comprising:

2 receiving a request at a control module from a first remote device to access media
3 data from a storage management module;
4 determining at the control module that a first user is requesting access to the data
5 based upon a first remote identification (ID);
6 opening a data stream between a playback module and the storage management
7 module; and
8 receiving the data at the playback module.

1 21. The method of claim 20 further comprising processing the request at the control
2 module after the request is received at the control module.

- 1 22. The method of claim 20 further comprising:
- 2 analyzing the user information at the control module in order to determine
- 3 whether the first user is to be granted access to the data; and
- 4 accessing a database at the storage management module.
- 1 23. The method of claim 20 further comprising displaying the data at a display device
- 2 coupled to the playback module.
- 1 24. The method of claim 20 wherein determining that a first user is requesting access
- 2 to the data based upon a remote ID comprises:
- 3 receiving remote control data from the first remote control device;
- 4 extracting the first remote ID from the remote control data; and
- 5 accessing an index table that correlates the first remote ID with the first user.
- 1 25. The method of claim 20 further comprising:
- 2 receiving a second request at the control module from a second remote device to
- 3 access the media data from the storage management module;
- 4 determining at the control module that a second user is requesting access to the
- 5 data based upon a second remote ID;
- 6 opening a second data stream between the playback module and the storage
- 7 management module; and
- 8 receiving the data at the playback module.
- 1 26. The method of claim 25 wherein determining that a second user is requesting
- 2 access to the data based upon a remote ID comprises:
- 3 receiving remote control data from the second remote control device;
- 4 extracting the second remote ID from the remote control data; and

5 accessing an index table that correlates the second remote ID with the second
6 user.